

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed May 13, 2004, has been carefully reviewed. The claims in the application are now claims 6 and 8-10, and these claims are believed to define patentable subject matter consistent with what is stated in the Official Action. Accordingly, the applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early allowance.

Claims 6 and 8 have been rejected under Section 102 as anticipated by Koyama EP ' 001. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Koyama discloses a compound of applicants' Formula II administered as a food product, and also discloses treating a viral infection such as hepatitis.

Claims 6 and 8 have now been amended to delete reference to hepatitis, whereby Koyama can no longer be said to anticipate claims 6 and 8.

Claims 9 and 10 have been added which are directed to the treatment of hepatitis, but which claims exclude the compounds of Formula II. Accordingly, Koyama does not anticipate new claims 9 and 10.

The amendments submitted above should place the present application in condition for allowance. Accordingly,


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Amd. dated August 10, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 13, 200

applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection
based on Section 102 and formal allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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